

5 **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A spindle motor for use in a disc drive comprising
a shaft supporting a thrust plate at one end thereof,
a sleeve surrounding the shaft and adjacent the thrust plate and cooperating
with the shaft to define a journal bearing and the thrust plate to define a first fluid
thrust bearing,
a counterplate welded to upraised axial arms of said sleeve and located
adjacent said thrust plate to define a second fluid dynamic thrust bearing,
the welded counterplate containing fluid within the thrust bearings and the
15 journal bearing.
2. A spindle motor as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft is fixed and the
sleeve and counterplate rotate relative to the shaft.
- 20 3. A spindle motor as claimed in claim 2 wherein the sleeve supports a hub
for supporting a disc for rotation about the shaft.
4. A spindle motor as claimed in claim 1 wherein the shaft is free to rotate
relative to the sleeve and counterplate.
- 25 5. A spindle motor as claimed in claim 4 wherein the sleeve and counterplate
are fixed to a base which supports the motor.
- 30 6. A spindle motor as claimed in claim 5 wherein the shaft supports a hub for
rotation over said base.
7. A spindle motor as claimed in claim 6 wherein the hub supports one or more
discs for rotation.

5 8. A spindle motor for use in a disc drive comprising
 a shaft supporting a thrust plate at one end thereof,
 a sleeve surrounding the shaft and adjacent the thrust plate and cooperating
 with the shaft to define a journal bearing and the thrust plate to define a first fluid
 thrust bearing,
10 a counterplate supported between upraised axial arms of said sleeve and
 located adjacent said thrust plate to define a second fluid dynamic thrust bearing,
 means for containing fluid within the thrust bearings and the journal bearing.

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